

Docket No.:

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Martin J. MACPHEE, Wilson BURGESS, David M. MANN, William N. DROHAN, Shirley I. MIEKKA, Randall S. KENT and Edward HORTON

Serial No. 09/973,958

Group Art Unit: 1744

Confirm. No.: 5803 Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: October 11, 2001

For: METHODS OF STERILIZING BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacing paragraphs as follows:

Specification Paragraphs With Mark-ups to Show Changes Made

The following are mark-ups to show changes made to paragraph 21 starting at

page 6, and ending at page 6:

Another embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method for [21]